

LATIN NOTES

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Issued in the interests of the teachers of Secondary Latin and Greek

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No. 1

STATISTICS REGARDING COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS IN LATIN AND REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION WITH THE A. B. DEGREE

Prepared by MARGUERITE KRETSCHMER and JULIA B. WOOD of the staff of the Service Bureau for Classical Teachers.

A short time ago the educational world was startled by the announcement of one of the oldest and most respected universities in the land that the study of Latin would no longer be required there for the A. B. degree. The example of Yale has already been followed by several other colleges which formerly had upheld the ancient languages, and teachers of Latin in the secondary schools may well ask themselves what the outcome of this new assault on the classics will be. Indeed, letters began almost immediately to reach the Service Bureau, inquiring about the significance of this move, and requesting data concerning other colleges throughout the country. Careful research into the matter revealed the fact that no systematic investigation of statistics regarding requirements in Latin for entrance to or graduation from college had been conducted since 1925, when there appeared a pamphlet by Charles W. Eliot, entitled "Latin and the A. B. Degree," printed by the General Education Board, and one year later, in 1926, a dissertation, "Latin and Greek in College Entrance and College Graduation Requirements," by Brother Giles of the Xaverian Brothers, printed by the Catholic University of America. Both of these treatises are by now necessarily out of date. Therefore the Service Bureau early in the month of June undertook an extensive project in order to secure the most recent statistics for the benefit of its patrons. Questionnaires were sent to over 890 colleges and universities listed in the latest educational directory, asking the registrar in each case to insert the name of the college under one of the following four heads, which had been copied from the first named pamphlet of Dr. Eliot:

1. Institutions requiring NO LATIN for the A. B. degree either before or after entrance.
2. Institutions requiring SOME LATIN for admission but NONE IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree.
3. Institutions requiring NO LATIN for admission but SOME IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree.
4. Institutions requiring SOME LATIN for admission and SOME IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree.

The response to these questionnaires has been very satisfactory. It was hardly expected that 534 colleges would answer within a few days of the receipt of our letters. Of this number 54 cannot be listed, as they

either proved to be Junior Colleges with only two years of study offered, or else replied that they do not award the A. B. degree. The largest group of the four is unfortunately the first one, numbering 330, and including nearly every state university in the country. It is to be remembered, of course, that the greater part of these colleges have not been affected by the decision of Yale, but have for years maintained the attitude expressed in their answers to the Questionnaire. Group four comes next, with 77 institutions, mostly Catholic. Groups two and three follow with 23 and 11 respectively, while it has been necessary to compose one more group, made up of those who do not belong under any of the other classifications but present certain special features, such as a possibility of the substitution of Greek for Latin if desired, the privilege of making up in college a deficiency in entrance credits, etc.

The result of this investigation need by no means alarm the Latin teachers throughout the country. The decrease in popularity of the classics is surely not so alarming as was the far more decided setback which German suffered during the World War. Yet German has returned to our schools and the prejudice against it has entirely disappeared. It is impossible that the study of a language and a civilization whose cultural values are so apparent to any serious-minded person should ever be dropped completely out of the educational system of enlightened twentieth century America.

Results of the Questionnaire

1. Institutions requiring NO LATIN FOR ADMISSION and NO LATIN IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree 330
2. Institutions requiring SOME LATIN FOR ADMISSION but NONE IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree 23
3. Institutions requiring NO LATIN FOR ADMISSION but SOME IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree 11
4. Institutions requiring SOME LATIN FOR ADMISSION and SOME IN COLLEGE for the A. B. degree 77
5. Institutions allowing the substitution of Greek or Mathematics for Latin 39

AVE ATQUE VALE!

Some months ago a short poem entitled "Atlas," written by Elizabeth Morrow, appeared in Latin Notes. While clipping it earlier from a current magazine, the editor remarked to a friend, "I often think

that the labors of this ancient hero are paralleled to-day in the lives of some of the men and women who are working for the cause of the classics—notably Dr. Ralph Magoffin, President of the American Classical League, chief officer of the Archaeological Institute, classical editor of a leading publishing firm engaged in bringing out a series of Latin textbooks for the secondary schools, head of the classical department of New York University, author of several books dealing with archaeology, and lecturer on classical themes throughout the country.” It is this thought on the part of the League officials which made possible the acceptance of Dr. Magoffin’s resignation at the June business meeting. His devotion to the classics will continue, but it is hoped that he may have a greater degree of leisure henceforth.

In choosing a successor, the nominating committee was fortunate in selecting W. L. Carr, Professor of Latin at Teachers’ College, widely known not only for his interest in University work but quite as well for his long years of practical experience in the secondary schools of the country, and particularly in the line of supervision of instruction for students preparing to teach Latin to boys and girls. His office of chief collaborator with Mason D. Gray in the work of the Classical Investigation of course makes him an authority on the “newer program” suggested in the Report of 1924. Classical teachers will join the Service Bureau in welcoming Professor Carr as President of the American Classical League.

A CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Henceforth the work of The American Classical League will be carried on at The Service Bureau for Classical Teachers, now located at New York University, Washington Square East, Fourth Floor of the South Building. All letters to the League should be addressed to this office.

Professor Rollin H. Tanner, head of the Foreign Language Department (including Greek and Latin), is still Secretary of the League. The work of the League and the Service Bureau will be largely directed to an increase in membership necessitated in the immediate future by the financial situation which will soon require that the League and the Service Bureau be self-supporting. The outlook, however, is bright, as anyone will admit who has a chance to visit the League in its new quarters and to note the character of the visitors and their deep interest in the material afforded them.

SOME PROBLEMS—HOW SOLVE THEM?

EDITOR’S NOTE: A column with this heading (or that given to the next article) will appear now and then in *LATIN NOTES*, for the purpose of drawing attention to difficulties which many teachers must meet and suggestions for successful methods. Answers sent in by readers will be welcomed and may be published in certain cases.

Question. Should this sight translation in a final examination in a Teacher’s Training Class (printed without change) disbar the writer (who has had 3½ years of college Latin) from receiving a recommendation for a position as teacher of Latin in a secondary school?

“Hidden in the night they go thru the shade and thru empty homes of Dis and the vapid kingdoms such as the journey by the wavering moon under an evil light when Juppiter hides, the sky in shadow and dark night steals the color of things. Before the vestibule itself

and in the first jaws of Orcus, Grief and the Avenging Cares sit, pale Diseases and sad Old Age live there and Fear and evil tongued Rumor and disgraceful Need, forms terrible to see, and Death then Sleep kinsman to Death and evil Joys of the mind and War bearing death are on the opposite threshold, the iron wedding chambers of the Eumenides and insane Discord its snaky hair bound with bloody vitals.”

—Vergil, *Aen.* VI, 268–281

DEVICES FOR TEACHING YOUNG LATIN PUPILS WHICH YIELD RICHLY IN RESULTS

1. A Completion Exercise.

Many of the newer beginning books contain Latin sentences with important words or endings omitted, the blanks to be filled by the pupils. A useful way of administering these is as follows: Ask the class to study one or two of these completion exercises for a given day. On that day, have the exercises ready in mimeographed or typed form. Ask the pupils to fill in the blanks in class with some prescribed medium, such as red pencil. The teacher then collects the papers, and marks errors by circling them in ink. The next day the pupils are asked to correct errors, without consulting their books, and using black lead pencil. The grade is then indicated in the margin by the teacher.

2. A Latin Bank Book

A personal achievement record that is a little out of the ordinary is the “Latin Bank Book.” Each pupil receives a small notebook so labelled, in which is recorded his grade on every important written lesson. In this way he is encouraged to improve over his own previous record. If he falls behind in his “deposits,” the class “teller” or the teacher reminds him of the deficiency in a formal note—, “A deposit on your Completion Exercises is due.”

3. “Ask Him a Question”

When a pupil who is translating makes an error, it is a good plan not to ask another pupil for the correction, but to say, “John, ask him a question that will help him see his own error.” If the first pupil has translated a future verb as past, for example, John will ask him, “Of what tense is *bi* the sign?” This helps both pupils, keeps the class alert, and illustrates a form of socialized recitation.

LATIN LOSES A FRIEND

Friends of Latin teaching all over the country will feel a sense of personal loss in the announcement that Miss T. Jennie Green, of Kirksville, Mo., died on May 24, 1931, after a brave struggle against cancer.

For twenty-seven years Miss Green had taught Latin at the State Teachers College at Kirksville, and had built up in connection with her Latin work a course in word study that became famous. She was interested also in the field of Latin teaching in high school, and had written articles and pamphlets on various phases of that subject for the Service Bureau. A native Missourian, a graduate of the school in which she taught and also of the University of Missouri, she exerted throughout her life an inspiring influence on Latin teaching over the state. She was state chairman for the Vergil Bimillennium, was for a time Service Bureau chairman for Missouri, and frequently held office in state educational associations. Her influence was more than state-wide, however. She was a member

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The League
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of the Regional Committee for the Classical Investigation, and for the year 1923-1924 was first vice-president of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Latin teachers everywhere will miss her kindly presence and the inspiration of her writings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Service Bureau Item No. 162, "Idioms in Caesar and in Cicero," has been expanded to form a drill book for second and third year students. Copies, price thirty cents each, may be obtained directly from the author, Harry E. Wedeck, 879 East 37th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

Professor Grant Showerman, Director of the Summer Session at the Academy of Rome, writes that he is using as a textbook his latest publication, "Rome and the Romans," brought out by The Macmillan Company. Latin and Ancient History teachers will await the appearance of this book Dec. 15 with much eagerness.

"The Department of Latin—A Handbook," is the title of a Bulletin prepared for the use of students who are intending to teach Latin, by Claire C. Thursby, Rofena Beach, and Grace W. Mason. It is published by the University High School at Oakland, California. Copies may be secured from the Press or from the Service Bureau for Classical Teachers. Price at the latter office is 30 cents.

The purpose of the Handbook is stated as follows: "The Latin Department has written this Handbook to enable you to enter upon your duties as a student teacher with a better knowledge of the problems before you and to assist you during the course of your directed teaching in handling problems which may arise." Teachers of experience will find the suggestions of value as well as the young instructor who is entering the field for the first time.

"Classical Studies and Sketches," by Professor Joseph B. Pike, Department of Latin, University of Minnesota, is "a little book of essays that give in the modern reader a feeling of close kinship with the ancient world." It is published by the University of Minnesota Press and may be secured for \$2.00.

A magazine entitled "Auxilium Latinum," of which Professor Albert E. Warsley, a member of the faculty of St. John's College in Brooklyn, is the Editor-in-Chief, is now offered to subscribers for the small price of 50 cents. It is written in Latin and is designed "as an aid for the furnishing of interesting, light and instructive material for Latin sight reading; as a medium for original Latin expression by its readers; an endeavor to revive the declining interest in Latin study and as a humble attempt to place Latin once again on that lofty pedestal that it has occupied in our system of education for the many past ages."

"The October issue of 5,000 copies is to contain from eight to twelve pages and the first instalment of a nine-part serial."

In connection with this publication an Association for the Promotion of the Study of Latin has been formed in which membership is free to all subscribers to the magazine. The official address is The Simplified Press, Station "S," Brooklyn, New York.

Latin teachers in secondary schools and their pupils will welcome the new historical novel just published by D. Appleton & Co., entitled "For Freedom and for Gaul" and written by Paul Anderson, author of the

popular Caesar and Cicero novels "With the Eagles" and "A Slave of Catiline." The hero of the new book is Vercingetorix, a character much admired by Latin pupils for his courageous effort to free his people—the Gauls—from Roman domination. The siege of Alesia is only one of the vivid pictures presented, but this account alone will make all teachers of Caesar include the Latin of the last part of Book VII in their list of Caesarian readings.

An attractive volume entitled "Persuasive Speech," written by Francis P. Donnelly of Fordham University has been presented to the Service Bureau by the publishers, P. J. Kenedy & Sons. Classical scholars as well as English will find it of value.

A. Bruderhausen of 45 West 55th St., New York City, writes that he has just received a shipment of 13 wall charts from Germany, all of which are highly useful in Latin and Ancient History classes. Many of them are colored. A catalogue will be sent upon application. Some of these are on display in the Service Bureau for Classical Teachers.

"Some Considerations of the Problem of Reading Latin," a small bulletin prepared by Margaret Henry, is sent out to Latin teachers free of charge by the publishing firm of Silver Burdett & Company, Newark, New Jersey.

THE AMERICAN CLASSICAL LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS

Material formerly available at the old address of the League, New York University, University Heights, will henceforth be sold at the Service Bureau, inasmuch as the stock has been transferred to the Washington Square location. A small pamphlet entitled, "Special Book Service for 1931," will be sent out to anyone desiring specific information as to titles, authors, prices, etc., of the items included under the above heading. In general, the material may be listed as follows:

1. Small paper leaflets dealing as a whole with the values of Greek and Latin; Vergil and the Bimillennial Celebration, including the Vergil Bookplate, Map, Medal, Plaque, and Stamps.
2. Books of interest to teachers of Latin and Greek.
3. Pictures.

Equipment Aids

The Service Bureau has a limited number of each of 70 signs printed in black on manila strips (about 2/3 of an inch in width) which are very helpful for Latin library shelves, posters, or for filing cases containing Latin material. Price 2 cents each. They run as follows:

Advertisements, Art, Background Articles, Bibliographies, Books, Bulletin Board, Caesar, Caesar and Cicero Background, Cicero, Classical Clubs, Classical Periodicals, Classical Survey, Classics and Modern Life, Content, Derivatives, Education in General, Equipment, Exhibits, First Year, Forms, Games, Grammars, Greek, High School Publications, Historical Novels, Junior High School, Language Study, Latin as Related to Other Subjects, Latin Notes, Latin Tests, Making the Connection, Mythology, News Letters, Non-Latin Tests, Objectives, Oral Latin, Ovid, Periodicals, Pictures, Plays, Professional Matters, Project Method, Prose, Reference Books, Religion, Roman Life, Roman History, Rome, Second Year, Societies, State Contests, Statistics, Supplementary Readers,

Survivals, Syntax, Teaching, Teaching Latin, The Romans, Third Year, Topics, Training Courses, Transfer of Training, Translation, Value of Latin, Value of the Classics, Varying Ability, Vergil, Vergil Background, Vocabulary, Word Study.

SERVICE BUREAU MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION

This material appears in mimeographed or printed form. In the case of the former, the items may be borrowed with the understanding that the teacher pays the postage and returns the material within two weeks after its receipt, or they may be purchased for five cents each unless another price is stated. Printed items, however, known as LATIN NOTES SUPPLEMENTS and BULLETINS, are not sent out as a loan but must be purchased at the prices indicated. The material is listed in leaflets published at the end of each school year, each one containing a summary of items which have been announced in the Latin Notes for the year. Sent out free of charge.

I. In Mimeographed Form

414 Articles are available.

II. Latin Notes Supplements

49 Are now in print; 10 cents each with a few exceptions.

III. Bulletins

25 Are in published form. Prices range from 10 cents to \$1.00.

IV. Pictures

Owing to the kindness of the members of the Vergilian Cruises of last summer (1930) The American Classical League through its Service Bureau for Classical Teachers was able to prepare 62 plates from which paper prints could be run off for the use of teachers and pupils who were interested in the preparation of scrapbooks or posters dealing with the Vergilian background. The collection is called Set I. Anticipating the just demand of prints illustrating Rome and the Romans, the Bureau has arranged collections of pictures roughly classified as follows:

- Set II. Rome and Roman Ruins Elsewhere (1-50)
- Set III. Roman Life (1-61)
- Set IV. Roman History (including Legends) and Stories of Famous Men and Women (1-93)
- Set V. Classical Mythology and Roman Religion (1-32)

These "sets" are in no sense final. They will be increased as desirable cuts are found and as the finances of the Bureau permit. Meanwhile donations such as certain publishers have made are welcomed most heartily. The following firms have cooperated in providing the visual aids to Latin instruction by presenting the Bureau with certain plates from their Latin textbooks from which paper prints have been made—each bearing the title, name of the author and textbook, and a courtesy statement regarding the publishing firm: Ginn and Company, D. C. Heath and Company, Johnson Publishing Company, The Macmillan Company, Benjamin H. Sanborn and Company, Scott, Foresman and Company, Charles Scribner's Sons, Silver, Burdett and Company, The John C. Winston Company.

At present the prints will be sold for 5 cents each, regardless of the sizes which range from $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ up to $6\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$. Reduction in price will be made for quantities.

Leaflet VII, sent out free of charge, contains a list of titles for sets I-V. Two large scrapbooks bearing the



Courtesy of Cleveland Museum of Art
III, 11. A ROMAN CITIZEN
Reprinted from Berry and Lee's
Latin Second Year
Courtesy of Silver, Burdett and
Company

titles of Vergil and Roman Life are at hand and will be sold for \$1.50 each.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

OF LATIN NOTES published 8 times yearly at New York, N. Y., for Oct. 1, 1931.
STATE OF NEW YORK..... } SS.

COUNTY OF NEW YORK..... }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared FRANCES SABIN, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the editor of the LATIN NOTES, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, editor, managing editor, business manager—FRANCES E. SABIN, New York University, Washington Square East, 51 W. 4th St.

2. This leaflet is published by the Service Bureau for Classical Teachers which is supported by the American Classical League of which W. L. Carr is President, Teachers College, New York City. FRANCES SABIN is the Director of the Bureau.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: NONE.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities as so stated by him.

FRANCES E. SABIN

Sworn to and subscribed before me on September 25, 1931.

ELWOOD C. KASTNER,
Commission Expires March 30, 1932.